

**NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
FACT SHEET**

(Pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

**Permittee:** BK Motel Corporation  
3410 Sandy Bowers Ave  
Gardnerville NV 89410

**Permit No.:** NEV98026

**Facility:** Topaz Lake Inn  
1929 Hwy 395 South  
Douglas County  
Latitude: 38° 41' 57" North  
Longitude: 119° 32' 55" West  
Township 10 N - Range 22 E - Section 29

**General:** Topaz Lake Inn is a 32 room motel that was constructed adjacent to the Topaz Nugget in 1999. A 10,000 gpd Santec package plant and leachfield were installed to serve the motel and casino. The enterprise then went bankrupt, and the Nugget was subsequently acquired by nearby Topaz Lodge and converted to a convention center (Topaz Lodge Convention Center). The convention center receives minimal usage and doesn't have kitchen facilities. Topaz Lodge is a motel casino with three restaurants, and is served by a separate package plant under discharge permit NEV50003.

The Santec plant was sized to accommodate the previously existing Topaz Nugget and a proposed 48 room motel. The Nugget had been served by a 4200 gpd septic tank leachfield system. Conversion of the Nugget to a convention center eliminated casino and restaurant flows, and the smaller than planned (32 room built vs 48 room proposed) motel has resulted in minimal flow and difficulty in meeting the effluent limitation for total nitrogen of 10 mg/l.

The Santec treatment processes consist of screening, equalization, aeration, denitrification, reaeration, clarification, sludge digestion, pH balance and methanol feed. The leachfield is split into two equal sized fields that are used in alternating fashion through manual operation of gate valves. Leachfield piezometers provide a check on the alternation frequency. The plant was designed to meet BOD/TSS/total nitrogen limits of 30/30/10 mg/l, respectively.

**Receiving Water Characteristics:** The depth to groundwater is 238 ft. The leachfield is within the 7000 ft well head protection zone of three public water supply wells; two serving Topaz Lodge and one serving Topaz Lake Inn. Two of the wells are within 500 ft and upgradient of the leachfield, the third is within 1000 ft and down or cross gradient.

## Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

### Fact Sheet

Topaz Lake Inn

NEV98026

Page 2 of 3

### Rational for Permit Requirements:

Table I.A.1 - from draft permit NEV98026

Parameter all units mg/l, except flow and pH	Discharge Limitations	Monitoring Requirements		
		Sample Location	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
flow, gpd	10,000	influent	continuous	pump timer or flow meter
BOD <sub>5</sub>	30	effluent	quarterly	discrete
TSS	30	effluent	quarterly	discrete
Total Nitrogen	10	effluent	quarterly	discrete
pH, standard units	6.0 - 9.0	effluent	quarterly	discrete
Kjeldahl Nitrogen as N	m & r	effluent	quarterly	discrete
Nitrate as N	m & r	effluent	quarterly	discrete
Nitrite as N	m & r	effluent	quarterly	discrete
BOD <sub>5</sub>	m & r	influent	quarterly	discrete
TSS	m & r	influent	quarterly	discrete

Notes: BOD<sub>5</sub> = 5 day biochemical oxygen demand

TSS = total suspended solids

m & r = monitor and report

Total nitrogen = Kjeldahl as N + nitrate as N + nitrite as N

The BOD and TSS limits are secondary standards. The total nitrogen limit has been imposed based on long standing nitrate contamination in the basin. The nitrogen species and influent BOD and TSS data are included to allow evaluation of the denitrification and secondary treatment processes.

**Schedule of Compliance:** The facility is required to meet the effluent limitations upon issuance of the permit.

**Procedures for Public Comment:** Notice of the Division's intent to renew discharge permit NEV98026, authorizing discharge of treated wastewater from Topaz Lake Inn and convention center to groundwater via leachfield, is being sent to the Nevada Appeal for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit must submit written comments to the Division within (30) days of the publication date. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator. The deadline for receipt of all written comments is 5:00 pm Friday April 15, 2005. Comments postmarked prior to that deadline will also be accepted.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected state or interstate agency, the Regional Administrator, or any interested agency, person, or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. Public hearings granted by the Division are conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

**Nevada Division of Environmental Protection**

**Fact Sheet**

Topaz Lake Inn

NEV98026

Page 3 of 3

The final determination of the Division may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

**Proposed Determination:** The Division has made the tentative determination to renew the proposed discharge permit for a five year term.

Prepared by:        Robert J. Saunders  
                             Staff Engineer  
                             Bureau of Water Pollution Control  
                             March 4, 2005